



**The 17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2020**

Welcome

Opening Songs

Open Up the Heavens

We've waited for this day
We're gathered in Your Name
Calling out to You
Your glory like a fire awakening desire
Will burn our hearts with truth

You're the reason we're here
You're the reason we're singing
Open up the heavens we want to see You
Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart
Filling every part of our praise

Your presence in this place
Your glory on our face
We're looking to the sky
Descending like a cloud
You're standing with us now
Lord unveil our eyes

You're the reason we're here
You're the reason we're singing
Open up the heavens we want to see You
Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart
Filling every part of our praise

Show us show us Your glory
Show us show us Your power
Show us show us Your glory Lord
Show us show us Your glory
Show us show us Your power
Show us show us Your glory Lord

Open up the heavens we want to see You

Open up the floodgates a mighty river
Flowing from Your heart
Filling every part of our praise!

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night

Then through the darkness your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
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Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
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Jesus Christ, my living hope

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Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Opening Acclamation

Leader The world belongs to God
All **the earth and all its people.**

Leader How good it is, how wonderful
All **to live together in unity.**

Leader Love and mercy come together;
All **justice and peace join hands.**

Leader Open our lips, O God,
All **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Collect of the Day

Clergy The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Clergy Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

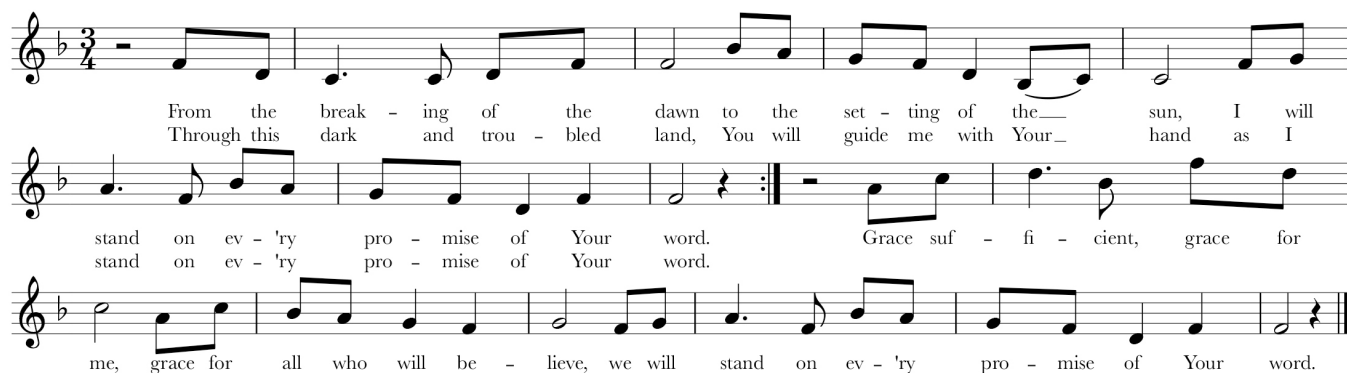
Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-8

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right
and teaches his way to the lowly.

Gospel Song



From the break - ing of the dawn to the set - ting of the sun, I will
Through this dark and trou - bled land, You will guide me with Your hand as I
stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your word. Grace suf - fi - cient, grace for
stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your word.
me, grace for all who will be - lieve, we will stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your word.

From the breaking of the dawn
To the setting of the sun
I will stand on every promise of Your word
Through this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with Your hand
As I stand on every promise of Your word
Grace sufficient grace for me
Grace for all who will believe
We will stand on every promise of Your word

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Charles N. Stewart

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader Let us pray to the Lord who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

(A brief silence)

Enliven the Church for its mission: In our Parishes, we pray for the people of Christ Episcopal Church, Jordan and their priest, the Rev. John Rohde; and the people of Ephphatha Mission Chapel of the Deaf, Liverpool and their priest, the Very Rev. Peter Williams. In our Companion Diocese, we pray for the people of San Miguel Arcángel, in Quezaltepec, and their priest The Rev. Alfredo López. In the Episcopal Church, we pray for the people of the Diocese of Central Ecuador and their bishop, The Rt. Rev. Victor Scantlebury. And in the Anglican Communion, we pray for the people of the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and their archbishop, the Most Rev. Ezekiel Kumir Kondo. May the church's life be marked by prayer and service to those in need.

People **that we may reveal Christ in word and action.**

Leader Lead this and every nation into ways of justice and peace,

People **that we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

Leader Inspire with your wisdom, those whose decisions affect the lives of others,

People **that all may act with integrity and courage.**

Leader Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it,

People **teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

Leader Restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially those we name now _____,

People **may they know the power of your healing love.**

Leader We remember with thanksgiving, those who have died, especially those we name now _____,

People **Give comfort to those who mourn, bring them peace in their time of loss.**

Leader

Lord you have called us to serve you. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Music for Reflection

Once and For All

Once and for all

The Father's love

He is the light in the darkness

Who took on flesh

And took our place

The weight of the world on His shoulders

The weight of the world on His shoulders

We believe our God is Jesus

We believe that He is Lord

We believe that He has saved us

From sin and death

Once and for all

Once and for all

Our debt is paid

There on the cross it is finished

The Lamb of God
For us was slain
Up from the grave He is risen
Up from the grave He is risen

We believe our God is Jesus
We believe that He is Lord
We believe that He has saved us
From sin and death
Once and for all

Jesus Jesus
God from God
Light from light
You are our salvation
Jesus Jesus
God from God
Light from light
Your Kingdom is forever

Jesus Jesus
God from God
Light from light
You are our salvation
Jesus Jesus
God from God
Light from light
Your Kingdom is forever

We believe our God is Jesus
We believe that He is Lord
We believe that He has saved us
From sin and death
Once and for all!

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for mission

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Announcements

Anniversary & Birthday Blessings

May the strength of God pilot you, May the power of God preserve you, May the wisdom of God instruct you, May the hand of God protect you, May the way of God direct you, May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.

Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46

Blessing

Clergy Now may God,
who gives seed to the sower
and grain to the reaper,
provide all that we need
so that we may produce a rich harvest
of faith, love, justice, and joy
for the good of the earth and its people
and to the glory of God.
And the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
be with you all now and evermore.

All **Amen.**

Closing Song

You Say

I keep fighting voices in my mind
that say I'm not enough
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up
Am I more than just the sum
of every high and every low?
Remind me once again just who I am,
because I need to know

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
When I don't belong, You say I am Yours
And I believe, I believe
What You say of me
I believe

The only thing that matters now
is everything You think of me
In You I find my worth,
in You I find my identity

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
When I don't belong, You say I am Yours

And I believe, I believe
What You say of me
I believe

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet
You have every failure, God
You'll have every victory

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
When I don't belong, You say I am Yours
And I believe, I believe
What You say of me
I believe!

Dismissal

Clergy Reconciled to God, made a new creation in Christ, and anointed by the Holy Spirit,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Additional sources for today's liturgy:

A New Zealand Prayer Book
Iona Abbey Worship Book
Prayer for Sundays and Seasons

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